

John Johnson Collection: pre-1960 ephemera

Law: a summary of the contents of each box and folder

This provisional index is taken from a report by Barbara Tearle, former Law Librarian on the contents of the Law boxes and Legal folders in the John Johnson Collection.

This section has not been catalogued or digitised

Extent: 10 boxes and 5 folders (outsize material with the shelfmark Legal folders)

Law box 1

Textbooks and reports

This section includes pamphlets about trials

Articles on Jurisprudence:

Two Penny Worth of Advice.

Ecclesiastical Jurisprudence Association. Proof with notes of suggested changes. Possibly its first prospectus.

Legal History

Cuttings from popular or specialist journals

Illustrations from the *Pictorial Times*, c1846

Popular pamphlets

New books from Sweet & Maxwell, January 1892

List of publications by Shaw & Sons (single sheet)

Law Reform

Publications relating to the 19th century law reform movement, including:

Anti-Game Law League

Society for Promoting the Amendment of the Law

Copyhold Defence Association

Society for the Abolition of Ecclesiastical Courts Petition to the House of Commons c.1846

Law box 2

Powers of attorney

According to *The Oxford Companion to Law* 'attorneys at law were formerly persons appointed by a party in court with power to appear for and to bind him, in particular in relation to the procedural steps of litigation'

29 documents, most with the same pre-printed wording

A group of these documents reflect this power to act in litigation. Many are endorsed 'warrant of attorney' then the names of the parties and something about the action. They date from early 18C to mid-19C. Includes one to act for the Earl of Lucan in 1831

Powers/warrants of attorney granted to a steward to transact estate business on behalf of the landowner, in one case giving the reason that the landowner was going to Germany

Three writs of summonses to Parliament: one addressed to the Duke of Kent (1799 – Queen Victoria's father?); another seems to be to someone called Hutchinson in 1819. Could be Christopher Hely Hutchinson, MP for Cork 1818-1826

Blank summons signed by Ilchester

Handwritten warrant of attorney of 1717 by a barrister of the Inner Temple appointing two people to register his land according to the provisions of an act of Parliament for registering Papists' lands

Professional licences

Five documents:

Two bonds by printers. They bound themselves to the Queen (both are 1844) in the sum of £400 to pay damages and costs if anyone successfully sued them for libel in any newspaper they printed

Three admissions of attorneys to practice in different courts, 1826, 1828, 185

Professional Societies

Two documents from the Juridical Society, 1855 and 1856, officers and lists of members

One circular from The Law Society, 1846, to its members reminding them that they must abide by the scale of fees agreed for barristers' clerks

Law box 3

Bonds

Note: A bond was used to guarantee payment. It was usually in the form of agreeing to pay twice the amount that was owed if the money was not paid back by a certain date. If it was paid back, the bond would be cancelled. This concept goes back for centuries and reflects a debt culture lacking in ready money.

Large number of bonds, mainly 18C with a lot from the beginning of the 19th century, including:

Bond made by a blacksmith in Massachusetts in 1739

Several bonds by people in the West Indies, including bonds in 1762 and 1763 made to three people in business together, probably a local merchant group, whose names are *printed* in the bond (unlike the standard bonds where space is left for the names of the parties). It looks as if

they used these bonds as a standard business procedure, requiring customers to make them out to ensure payment

The majority of bonds are in English, but there are some bonds with the first part (the obligation) in Latin and the second part (the condition) in English.

Some bonds only have the obligation as a pre-printed form and the condition is handwritten, presumably because the condition did not fall into any of the pre-printed categories.

Many have a handwritten memorandum endorsed on the bond and a few also have correspondence attached

Law box 4

Death/Estate Duties, Debt and Notices and Acknowledgements of debt, etc, including:

‘Certificates’ from the Prerogative Court of Canterbury and other diocesan church courts certifying that a will has been proved and registered. Spaces for the testators’ and executors’ names to be inserted, 1743 to 1850s, on parchment (?), measuring c. 7” x 7”, some with a seal attached

Grant of probate in Latin, possibly 1702; and a similar one in English 1762 with seal

Tuition grant from the Diocese of Chester, 1828, parchment (?). (Note: tuition grants appointed a guardian when the heir was a minor)

Grant of probate in 1743 made in two documents. Doc 1 says that the executrix had died before obtaining probate of her husband’s will and so an administrator was appointed for the wife and her husband’s will. Doc 2 is the bond that the administrator entered into

Grant of administration in the Archdeaconry of Oxford in 1759

Grant of administration on intestacy from the Principal Registry 1880 and several more. (Note: from 1858, all wills and administrations were proved in the Probate Registry of the High Court. Before 1858, wills and intestacies were dealt with by the church courts)

Two grants of administration in Latin, 1715 and 1730

Bonds, including one of 1772 from the surgeon of an East Indiaman to a London wine merchant for payment of a sum by 1773, with a long letter written on the verso

Authorisations and receipts for distraint of goods on failure to pay rent 1816–1843. Some include an inventory of the goods which were taken in distraint

Pro formas used by notaries public for bills of exchange. The forms seem to be used in investigating why a bill has not been honoured. 1816, 1847 1848

Printed receipt for payments for lighting and street cleaning in Edinburgh 1848

About ten receipts for assessed taxes of various kinds – window tax and property tax – in Edinburgh, 1847-8, including for payment of feu [sic] duty. (Scottish law)

Pro forma requiring constables and tythingmen of Tiverton, Devon to appear before the JPs about the removal of a woman from Tiverton to elsewhere in Devon, 1809. This is returning a pauper to her place of settlement

Notice of a dividend of 4s in £ in the estate of a bankrupt. Bankruptcy petition was 1793; notice is 1832

Forms headed Relief of Insolvent Debtors and ordering a date for hearing for their discharge, 1826, 1831, 1834, etc

Batch of miscellaneous documents 1827-37, concerning the Writers to the Signet, including a *printed* letter from the Librarian resigning his office on being appointed to a judicial post. (Note: The Writers to the Signet are the oldest society of solicitors in Scotland, located in Edinburgh).

Several printed notices, signed and dated 1840 but blank, ordering appearance before tithe commissioners to answer questions.

Writ ordering appearance before the Exchequer(?) of Pleas concerning an action for debt, 1851

Printed letter reminding the County Treasurer of Exeter of an annual payment of £20 under the Poor Prisoners' Relief Act 53 Geo III ch 113

Order to a woman to appear in a court in the local church and produce a will (her husband's?) or take out letters of administration, 1813. This may be an unusual insight into how the church courts worked when people were tardy in going about the formal business of administering a deceased person's estate

Several orders for attorneys to appear before a judge in chambers, 1789

Document in Latin and printed in a law hand. A note on the mount says '1720 Agreed interim order as to profits of land pending an action for recovery of possession'

Notice of the amount to be paid on the composition of small tithes, 1786

Several more grants of administration; interesting to see the difference in presentation of the forms in 1748 then 70 years later in the 1820s and 1830s

Notice to a vicar in 1837 to appear in the Archdeaconry court to pay his Procuration

Letters of reminder in 1835 to an executor to pay duty, and in 1867 from the Legacy and Succession Duty department to a beneficiary to pay the duty owed

Declaration of ejectment in 1831 couched in the form John Doe v Richard Rose – a legal device

Request for payment of money owed to a testator. This was privately printed for the person collecting debts on behalf of the executor

List of furniture for which money was owed in an action for debt in the court of Exchequer of Pleas 1840

Notice in 1852 from the London Merchant Traders Association for the Prosecution of Swindlers etc about the collection of debt

Notices of Debt/ acknowledgements

Various forms for relief of insolvent debtors from different courts and different periods. A few other items in this section including:

Notice of satisfaction of payment of a debt of £10k by the Duke of Buckingham. The debt was incurred in 1833 and payment received in 1863

Births

Note: in 1837 a central system of registering births, marriages and deaths was set up, which continues to the present and which issues certificates for the event. Before 1837, baptisms, marriages and burials were entered in the Church of England parish registers. Because increasing numbers of people did not belong to the established church, Dr Williams's [sic] Library set up a system of registering events for Baptists, Congregationalists and Methodists; they issued certificates. This section includes:

Certificates of registration from Dr Williams's Library in 1820s, 1830s etc. Some certificates are dated well after the event. 1780s, 1790s

Several certificates of birth or baptism in the parish church

Death and Estate duty

Death certificate of 1855 from Melbourne, Victoria; on verso are notes of a court action in 1898, for which it was produced

Several certificates headed Registry of Death, post-1837

Coroner's order for burial in 1889

Pre-1837 'certificate' of burial, which is an extract from a parish register

Several grants of administration

1716 grant of probate in Latin with the will attached and another of 1773

Confirmation by a public notary of various amounts of money owed to an estate. Handwritten, dated 1778 in the reign of Joseph II, central European

Printed copy of a will 1748 from St Kitts and another of 1805 from England

Several blank will forms, including instructions on the left side for writing the will

Law box 5

Baptism certificate from Dr Williams's Library mid-18C and a letter after 1937 from its deputy librarian explaining about registration in the Library.

Marriages

Several Church of England pre-1837 marriage 'certificates', usually described as an Extract from the marriage register. Some have a page number printed at the top as if they were taken from a marriage register. Some say married by special licence

1842 'certificate' issued by the vicar or registrar. This is not the post-1837 marriage certificate. It is very brief, does not give any authority, and was probably privately printed by the vicar or registrar

Blank return to be sent by a vicar to the Superintendent Registrar of the district recording that no marriage had taken place in the parish church in the previous three months

Newspaper clipping 'Legality of Gretna Green marriages' which is an account of a case of desertion where the husband refused to maintain his wife, making her chargeable on the parish. No source, no date

Many marriage licences from different dioceses or church authorities, 1740s-1870s. Some have seals attached; others have seals stuck on to the licence

Marriage licences 1721 and 1733 in Latin issued by the Peculiar and Exempt Jurisdiction of Corfe Castle. Another of 1737 in English. Others from different church jurisdictions, 1764 and 1778

Marriage licence 1840 from the Diocese of Calcutta, partly filled in

Grant of administration on intestacy from the diocese of Winchester, 1676 in Latin

Latin marriage licence 17th century. The mount has a note saying 'part of a wedding certificate mid 17C' but it is a licence.

Society of Friends (Quakers) blank marriage certificate, 1900s

Two blank forms 1820s under the New Marriage Act: an affidavit to be made by the parties being married; and a form for the consent of a parent or guardian. (Note: this is probably the Marriage Act 1823 c. 76, which repealed the Clandestine Marriages Act 1823 c. 17)

Marriage bond 1701; Latin in top part (the bond) and English in the second part (the condition)

Summons/Writs

Various types of orders, including:

Orders to apprehend someone and produce them at a particular court on a given day

Batch of blank forms addressed to the constables and tithing men of a parish ordering them to summon someone to appear in court

Two orders under an act for vesting forfeit estates in trustees, 1721 and 1722. Both are about property or money forfeited of high treason in 1715

Order to constables to summon 24 men to appear before the coroner, presumably to be jurors, 1766

Blank form summoning someone accused of contravening weights and measures act, 1800s

Batch of orders or summonses in first decade of 20C to give evidence about fires to different courts in London issued to Col. Fox, Watling Street Salvage Corp

Printed letter from the Queen's Remembrancer under the Fines Act 1833 (3 & 4 Will 4 c 99) to the Poole coroner about estreat of deodands (Note: deodands were items that had caused a person's death and could be seized by the court. They were abolished in 1862)

Writs of summons and sub poenas to appear at various courts to give evidence, 1780s – 1840s

Orders of court

A variety of orders made by different courts, including:

Warrant to Sheriff to arrest someone 1825

Order made by the official receiver of the Court of Arches in 1830 appointing additional court days

Indented order 1793 naming the jurors in an inquisition

Document from King's Bench 1834 which substitutes the defendant's name for Richard Roe

Summons for non-payment of church rates in Cumberland 1850

Batch of c.75 documents on 25 mounts ordering a person to attend a judge in chambers. Covers the period 1780s–1850s; judges of various courts in London. Includes judges' signatures.

Written evidence

These are orders and writs of summonses

Law Box 6

Summons and writs

Issued by various courts 1780s–1870s, includes:

Two summons, 1740s, for people to appear in the courts of the island of St Christopher

Bail, imprisonment

Orders from different courts, especially to Sheriffs, e.g.

Order to a person who stood bail for someone to surrender him or forfeit his bail money, 1796

Order to Sheriff of Nottingham to detain someone and produce him before the justices, 1718, Latin

Warrant of Arrest and Habeas Corpus

Note: Similar to documents elsewhere in the box, and includes:

Order to the keeper of Newgate to deliver a person to court who was accused of stealing a boot worth 5s, 1816

Blank form from Baltimore County headed the Absolute Lord and Proprietary [sic] of the Provinces of Maryland ... 1700s (pre-1776!)

Manorial courts

Posters announcing the time and place for various courts to be held, eg court leet, court baron, view of frankpledge, 18th to 19th centuries

Notice that a person chosen as a manorial officer must go to the justices and take an oath, blank form 18th century

Handwritten notice 1740 that anyone claiming the copyhold of a lately-deceased widow should come forward

Request to be admitted to a copyhold, 1805

Order by JPs to churchwardens and overseers to convey two people to their parish of settlement, 1842

Orders that tenants of a manor must appear to pay rent, show their leases

Order addressed to the Cryer of the Court for him to give public notice of a court baron, 1752

Law box 7

Bonds, etc.

Note: A few items are bonds but most are other types of undertakings, releases or court orders, including:

Releases by A from all claims by B, 1770s, 1780s, 1719, 1720s, 1730s

Handwritten acknowledgement that beneficiaries have received their bequests, 1723

Similar from a residual legatee, 1770

Acknowledgement from the Prothonotary's office of the King's Bench in Ireland that A had obtained a judgement with costs against B, 1823

Notice to quit, 1820

Forms under the Master and Servant Act 1867 ch 141 used by employers to claim compensation from absconding employees (probably agricultural workers on an annual contract), 1874

Appointment of a JP, 1846

Printed list of Wiltshire Magistrates for 1483, 1484, 1503, 1642 and 1661 extracted from Patent Rolls and other documents, n.d.

Form used by Lincs Quarter Sessions, ordering overseers of the poor to pay the alleged putative father's costs in a failed application brought by the overseers for payment of maintenance for a child

Lists of parishes included in several wapentakes in Lincs, 1832; and list of parishes in petty sessional divisions in Northants, ?1860s

Reply by the High Sheriff of Lincs as part of a dispute over difficulties encountered about fees, 1831. This is a follow up to a Report by the House of Commons Select Committee on the Office of High Sheriff

Letters from the Clerk of the Peace to newly appointed magistrates instructing them of the procedure for qualifying to take up their appointments, 1830

Certificate of examining magistrates about the costs of the prosecutor and constables in producing someone for examination, 18..

Form used by Norfolk magistrates to order the arrest of the alleged father after examining a woman about the paternity of her bastard, 1784

Recognizances – licences to keep a common alehouse. These are bonds with bondsmen and the amount of bond, 1772

Order to constables to produce a man in court for breach of the peace whose wife claimed he had beaten her, 1766

Printed letter to Grand Jury men who did not appear, fining them £20 unless they presented themselves with an explanation, 1867. Remarkably deferential in wording

Requests for people to attend a Grand Jury, 1867

Orders for people to appear at courts, 1720s, early 1800s

Many varied printed forms under the Game Laws

Blank form used by the Accountant General of the Court of Chancery with the note 'to be kept as a precedent'

Joint memorandum, statement and surveyor's estimate for land tax(?) on tithes, 1799

Printed letters about a meeting at Euston Hotel about allowances to prosecutors and witnesses, including a future meeting with the Secretary of State, 1862

Printed letter about setting up a Magistrates' Club, 1861 and others about the work of magistrates 1860s and a questionnaire, 1864, about lodgings for magistrates

Letter from a Grand Jury complaining about the reduction of allowances to prosecutors and witnesses, 1861

Extracts from the licensing laws, 1905

Report on justices' clerks' fees, 1892

Amount of debt and costs to be recovered in an action in the Court of Common Pleas, 1856

Orders about liquidation in a case, 1869, under the Companies Act. These may be in copper plate handwriting, not printed

Forms used by the Lord Mayor's Court, London, 1819

Law box 8

Ecclesiastical

The majority of the items are notices/orders/certificates about the ordination of men as priests and their presentation to livings, including forms certifying that the person has declared that he will conform to the Thirty Nine Articles, 18C and 19C. Amongst the other items are:

Printed form in Latin of the Catholic Church dated 1701. The handwriting is faded. One of the names is English. It may be an ordination of a Catholic priest

Notice to Quarter Sessions of an appeal by the overseers of the poor against an order for a person to be transferred to their parish. Handwritten 1836

Grant of probate in Latin with original will attached, 1731. (Usually the grant is written on the will)

The rules of the Society for the Abolition of Ecclesiastical Courts, heavily amended throughout including a change of title to the Ecclesiastical Jurisprudence Association

Form of service for the induction of a Canon in Salford, 1892

Notice to a curate to appear at a visitation, 1830

Oath to be taken by a Common Council man of London to uphold the Church of England

Confirmation by churchwardens that a Common Councillor received the sacrament, 1767, vellum, handwritten

Text of an oath of allegiance or supremacy taken to Charles II. No date. Probably a contemporary printing. Annotation on verso: Wing T1558+

Reasons presented by the Ecclesiastical Court Commission for the abolition of county courts, written in reply to a Parliamentary report, n.d.

Letter complaining about the variability of church fees (eg for burials), 1834

Letter about Queen Anne's Bounty, 1825

Four extracts about the rules of cathedral churches, c1707. It may be in answer to a bill in Parliament about Carlisle

Resolution of the Associated Registrars, deputy registrars and other officers of county courts about testamentary courts, 1834

Marriage bond, 1770

Several manuscript 'certificates' of admission of vicars, on vellum, 1850, 1856 etc.

Licences for vicars, curates, readers and a Friday evening lecturer, 19th century

Marriage licence, with a ms note of confirmation that the marriage took place written above the printed text, 1753

Licence for one year for a minister to live in a house outside his parish, 1855

Papers in the case of Miller v Bloomfield and Slade in the High Court of Delegates on appeal from the Court of the Peculiar of Great Canfield and Poole, 1823

Printed letter about the prohibited degrees of affinity for marriage, specifically with a deceased wife's sister, 1772 (Note: the law was not changed until 1907)

Law box 9

Foreign law, art and architecture and misc.

Two forms, tete-beche from Corfu 1830s

Los Angeles decree establishing a death in 1962 with typed schedule of real and personal property

State of New York, possibly a grant of probate with very long will in ms attached, 1833. A nice point is the dating. The calendar year is followed by 'and of our Independence the sixty first' i.e. c. 1833

French marriage licence, (probably) 1743

France Conservation des Hypotheques (mortgage or land charges registry) for property valued at 7000 francs. Under an edict of 1771, document dated 11 brumaire an 7, i.e. c.1799

France Departement des Landes. registration of title to land? 19 thermidor an 4, ie c.1796s

France. Receipt for payment of custom duties in Bordeaux? 1813

Forms from Ireland and Scotland

Upper half for a ms page that looks like a marriage settlement, English possibly 1838

Two 19th or 20th century postcards showing copies of Gretna Green marriage certificates of 1830 and 1854; more postcards from Gretna Green

A brief statement of Dr Aylilffe's case at Oxford n.d. c1716. Possibly the same as MS Rawl J fol. 2

Prints, b&w and colour, 19C cartoon style; portrait; assassination of Mr Percival in the Lobby of the House of Commons

Around 20 prints of legal buildings in London, 19th century

Letter from the Exchequer Chamber in Edinburgh directing recipient to complete a return about his salary etc as a collector of taxes

Costs in an insolvency case

Request to the Master of the Bench of Lincoln's Inn to be taken off the books of the society, 1828

Document headed Summary Conviction, setting out the case against a woman who had taken tolls on a turnpike road for a child's perambulator 1857

Office of the Poor Law Commissioners London to the clerk of the guardians of Whitchurch Hants 1835. On verso in ms are some rough notes or minutes

Printed list of legal costs with the amounts added in ms and ms expenses of fine, 1815

Notice from the Duke of Portland to a lessee of the terms for renewing a lease, 1831

Society for Organising Charitable Relief and Repressing Mendicity: objects, method of work and list of poor law divisions in London, 1873 (booklet)

Northampton Artisans and Labourers Friendly Society, monthly contributions and withdrawal record form, n.d.

Northampton Artisans and Labourers Friendly Society, 3 booklets – report, rules and meeting agenda, 1903, 1948, 1953

Report of the statement of the Secretary and Treasurer of the Union of Democratic Control, London 1915

Five or six items from Northants CC about local administration, including a list of Northants magistrates, 1902

Six pages from *Gleanings from a printers file* (p29-34) and 3 copies of recantations (in Welsh) 1826, 1832, 1849

Consistory Court of London, expenses of the solicitor of one party in a case, 1825 and a humble memorial of one party, 1811

Nine cuttings from magazines (*Country Life*, *Illustrated London News*) on popular legal matters with illustrations, eg pillories, Dick Turpin's baptism in the parish register

Order of ceremony for the opening of the Central Criminal Court by King and Queen in 1907

London, Female Preventive and Reformatory Institution, summary of activities 1857-65

France: order for arrest(?) 1792

Catalogue 621 from Blackwell's of secondhand criminology books 1955

Order of Lord Denman appointing Frederick Pollock to revise the voters lists in 3 boroughs in Cumberland, 1842 [these are well-known legal figures]

Two certificates of a papist taking the oath of allegiance, 1723

4th report of the Directors of the Aberdeen House of Industry, 1839-40

Notice of days for holding county court hearings at Totnes and Churston Ferrers, 1878

Report of a committee to assess rogue money and county rates, Lanark 1837

Prison Discipline Society of Scotland, Directors and committee members 1837

Law box 10

Modern legal forms

Begins with advisory leaflets 20th century, including explanatory leaflet for jurors and an expenses form.

The section of the box called Legislation only has two acts and two bills. The remainder are returns, etc from Northants on a variety of local administrative activities and include some building work specification and tender forms, 20C possibly cyclostyled

Seven notices or memos from the War Office about volunteer corps from 1859, some concerning Northants

Legal folders (outsized material)

Legal folder 1

Juries

Printed lists of jurymen. One list has the name of the parties, Middlesex 1851. Three more lists lack the names of the parties

A resolution about Grand Jury dinners, 1839, Armagh

Sir Richard Phillips's *Golden Rules for Jurymen*, nd London

Miscellaneous, including:

Report of the Justices' Clerks' Society to its AGM, with list of members, 1882

Printed copy of Letters Patent granting the estates of the late Lord Colerane to the Earl of Sherborne, 1763

Copy of an assignment of £5000, 1764

National Cartoons by GEGEEF no 3 Our National Law, n.d.

Proceedings at the trial for high treason at Sterling, printed at North Shields, 1820

Digressions on the Study of the Law Goody Grim versus Lapstone, nd London [a savage attack on cross-examining witnesses]

Blank forms and legal stationery, including:

Advertisement for blank forms, Philadelphia, after 1848

Blank booklet of forms of warrants to distrain, filed in with the name of the agent. Cover title: Distress warrants R G Ibbett's new formula no 1 (entered at Stationers Hall) 1800s

Blank receipt for sale of property, Philadelphia

Blank order to a Sheriff to attend the Master and present a list of special jurymen

Blank Gretna marriage certificate, 1850s

List of bankruptcy forms sold by James Johnstone, London, after 1845

Addendum to Shaw & Sons catalogue 1829 listing highways and alehouse licensing forms

List of forms for magistrates, sheriffs, high constables and parish officers sold by Coles & Galpin, Fleet Street

Abstracts

Towns in various circuits in Lincolnshire, Leicestershire and Rutland, recording changes made to the circuits in which some were placed

Abstract of several records ... to prove the claim of Katharine wife of Richard Bokenham to the Barony of Berners, 25 pages. A modern note says a writ of summons to a spiritual peer and petition, mid 18th century?

Abstracts of two acts (Uniformity of Process Act 1832, Act for the further amendment of the laws and the better advancement of justice 1833)

Abstract of the laws for the better ordering of society, nd, post 1787.

Short abstract of the deed of settlement of the Laudable Society of Annuitants (established 1766), 1770

Local Government and law, including:

Lists of jurors for cases, 1827, 1839, 1847

Burton on Trent bye-laws 1892

Manuscript, the top half only of an Exemplification of a judgment at Glamorgan assizes about houses in Swansea, 1726. This identification has been written in a modern hand. An

exemplification is a copy of a document, often written in a highly stylised legal script and with decoration. This one is decorated with a nice portrait, probably George I,

Notice to innkeepers that a licencing session called by the Cambridge JPs is ultra vires because it falls within the jurisdiction of the University, 1836. [seems to be part of a dispute]

Notice from JPs about a subscription to build a court house and prison in Falkirk, 1814

From the Lord Mayor of London on the method of returning juries, 1825

Note on the mount: a Common recovery in the Mayor's court of Shrewsbury, 1749

Three cause lists for Northumberland summer assizes, showing the plaintiffs, defendants and their attorneys, 1823 and 1824

National Government and the House of Lords

Notice from the Lord Chancellor about giving notice of bankruptcies in the London Gazette, 1793

On the mount: Bishop of Exeter 1820s. Latin. A summons to Parliament?

Report from the Home Office Chambers on the districts to be formed for the recovery of small debts, 12 pages, 1846

Note on mount: appointment of assessors of land tax, 1779

Order from the Exchequer ('In Scaccario') for the appraisal of goods seized at ports and for sale, 1735-6

Various letters about sale of land in Scotland 1750

Handwritten will attached to a printed form granting probate, 1770

Covering letter from the attorney General to the Master in Chancery about a petition in Parliament about high treason and an attack on the royal prerogative in the county Palatine of Lancaster, 1873-5

Respondent's case in an appeal from Chancery to the House of Lords (as the final court of appeal) in the case of *Trent v Trent* 1807

Two acts of Parliament about sale of crown lands between the Tower of London and London Bridge, 1832 and 1833. [The pages are numbered, indicating that they are extracts from the annual volumes of acts.]

Six cartoons and portraits from *The Law Journal*, 1925 and 1928. [coloured]

Legal folder 2

Conveyancing, mortgages

About 50 forms used in these two processes. Items of interest include:

Lease of a watercourse or pipe in London with a note on the verso that Mr Price of Great Russell Street will hear all grievances, 1685 (see also Folder 3). Annotation on the mount: Wing T932++

Mortgages including the names of building societies, e.g. the Borough of Lambeth Benefit Building Society and The Temple Bar Mutual Permanent Building Society

Marriage settlements and inheritance, including

Leaflet about regulations for duties on legacies and residues, [n.d. after 1805]

Deed of revocation from the trustees of Lord Radnor's marriage settlement, enrolled in Chancery, 1789

Apprenticeships

A variety of forms, periods and status of apprentice, including:

Apprenticeships of poor children by the overseers of the poor, 1711, 1807

Blank apprenticeship form used by Leighton & Son and Hedges bookbinders for apprentices, date 18..

Nicely decorated apprenticeship to an apothecary in York, 1742

Draft of an apprenticeship agreement issued by the National Amalgamated Union of Shop Assistants, Warehousemen and Clerks, London, [n.d., after 1918]

Apprenticeship of a girl to a woman, completed in pencil(?) and now very faded, c. George II

A 16 year-old Londoner binding himself apprentice to a Greenock seaman. On the verso, a note that he served his term and how much he was paid, 1859

Petitions

Draft petition to the House of Commons from JPs about the game laws, 1847

Facsimile of 1832 of some signatures on the Edinburgh Petition against the Punishment of Death for Forgery, 1830

Notices to quit

Five documents from the Court of Queen's Bench (i.e. Victorian) or from the agents of private landlords

Articles of the charge of the Wardmote Inquest 1839, with manuscript note 'to read to all the Inquest after the foreman is chosen'. This is a piece of London court procedure.

Legal folder 3

Indentures, leases, letting agreements

About 25-30 forms; mainly English, a few from Ireland; 1617 to 1830s. Interesting features:

A few include a schedule of the fields and their acreage

One Irish lease expresses the annual rent in both 'late Irish currency' and 'Imperial currency', 1789

Several provide a space on the document for a plan of the property

The most interesting or unusual is a lease for a water pipe in London (see also Folder 2), 1617. Annotation on the mount: STC 17869.5

Legal Folder 4

About 50 forms, the majority relating to different stages in bankruptcy proceedings, in cases for discharge by insolvent debtors and assignment of debtors goods to a creditor for sale.

These people will appear in the London Gazette where notice was required for stages in the processes of bankruptcy and discharging insolvent debtors.

Also:

Eight reports of consultations on the Bankruptcy Bill (Scotland) c1813-1814

Order of the sessions clerk in Edinburgh that two people could marry, 1770

Bond for payment of the amount decided by arbitrators in a dispute, 1796

Two notices or posters about bankruptcy procedure, 1794. Annotations on the mount: ESTC numbers t192646 and t192647

Notice or poster advertising that goods have been assigned to a creditor for sale, 1835

Legal Folder 5

French agreements, mainly assizes

This file contains c25 posters or public notices emanating from French law courts in the decades around 1800

Twenty are from various cours d'assises (criminal courts operating in every *departement*). The notices name the accused, give a physical description, a list of the crimes he or she has committed and the sentence. Sentences include imprisonment, hard labour, branding on right shoulder, and exhibiting in the *carcan* (similar to the stocks or pillory?). Dates range from 1790s (in republican dating) to the 1820s

The remaining five are orders for the sale of land; some have a second page with extracts from something - possibly the authority for the sale or the people to whom the land was sold. A couple are headed *Par l'Empereur* and president and judges of the civil tribunal of the place.

